

VZCZCXRO5759
RR RUEHROV
DE RUEHAE #0465 2621112
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 181112Z SEP 08
FM AMEMBASSY ASMARA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9909
INFO RUCNIAD/IGAD COLLECTIVE
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 0455
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDCH
HUMICEA/JICCENC CACDILL AFB FL
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC
RHRMDAB/COMUSNAVCENT
RUEPADJ/CJTF-HOA J2X CAMP LEMONIER DJ
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 000465

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR AF/E
LONDON AND PARIS FOR AFRICA WATCHERS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/17/2018
TAGS: [PREF](#) [PHUM](#) [PGOV](#) [SOCI](#) [ER](#) [EG](#)
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON ERITREANS DEPORTED FROM EGYPT

REF: A. ASMARA 324
[1](#)B. ASMARA 353

Classified By: Ambassador Ronald K. McMullen for Reason 1.4 (d)

(C) Post received a reliable report on the fate of the approximately 900 Eritreans deported from Egypt in June. About 80% (720) of the prisoners were military deserters, who were returned to their units after a couple of weeks of processing. Another 30 to 50 deportees were considered "criminals" and remain either in the Wia disciplinary camp (where all of the deportees were initially taken) or in one of Eritrea's other prisons. Post's source, whose close relative works as an administrator at Wia, corroborated Eritrean media reports that the GSE threw a party for the remaining 130 to 150 returnees, provided a 500 Nakfa (\$33) cash payment to each person, and allowed them to return home almost immediately. The contact added that each Egypt Air flight containing deportees had between 30 and 40 Egyptian soldiers on board.
MCMULLEN